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(54) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING, RECEIVING AND/OR PROCESSING INFORMATION AND/OR DATA

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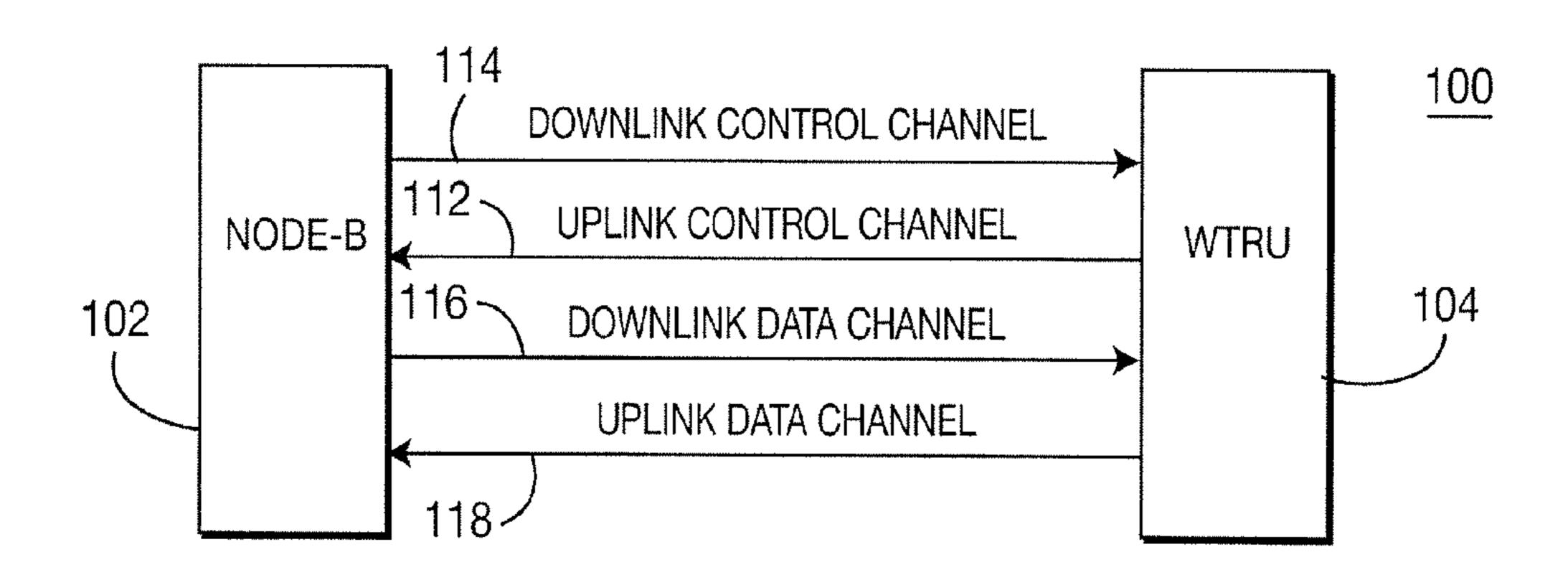
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(57) ABSTRACT

A method and system for providing control information for supporting high speed downlink and high speed uplink packet access are disclosed. A Node-B assigns at least one downlink control channel and at least one uplink control channel to a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU). The downlink control channel and the uplink control channel are provided to carry control information for both the downlink and the uplink. Conventional control channels for downlink and uplink are combined into a reduced set of control channels for uplink and downlink. The Node-B and the WTRU communicate control information via the downlink control channel and the uplink control channel. The WTRU receives downlink data and transmits uplink data, and the Node-B receives uplink data and transmits downlink data based on the control information transmitted via the downlink control channel and the uplink control channel.

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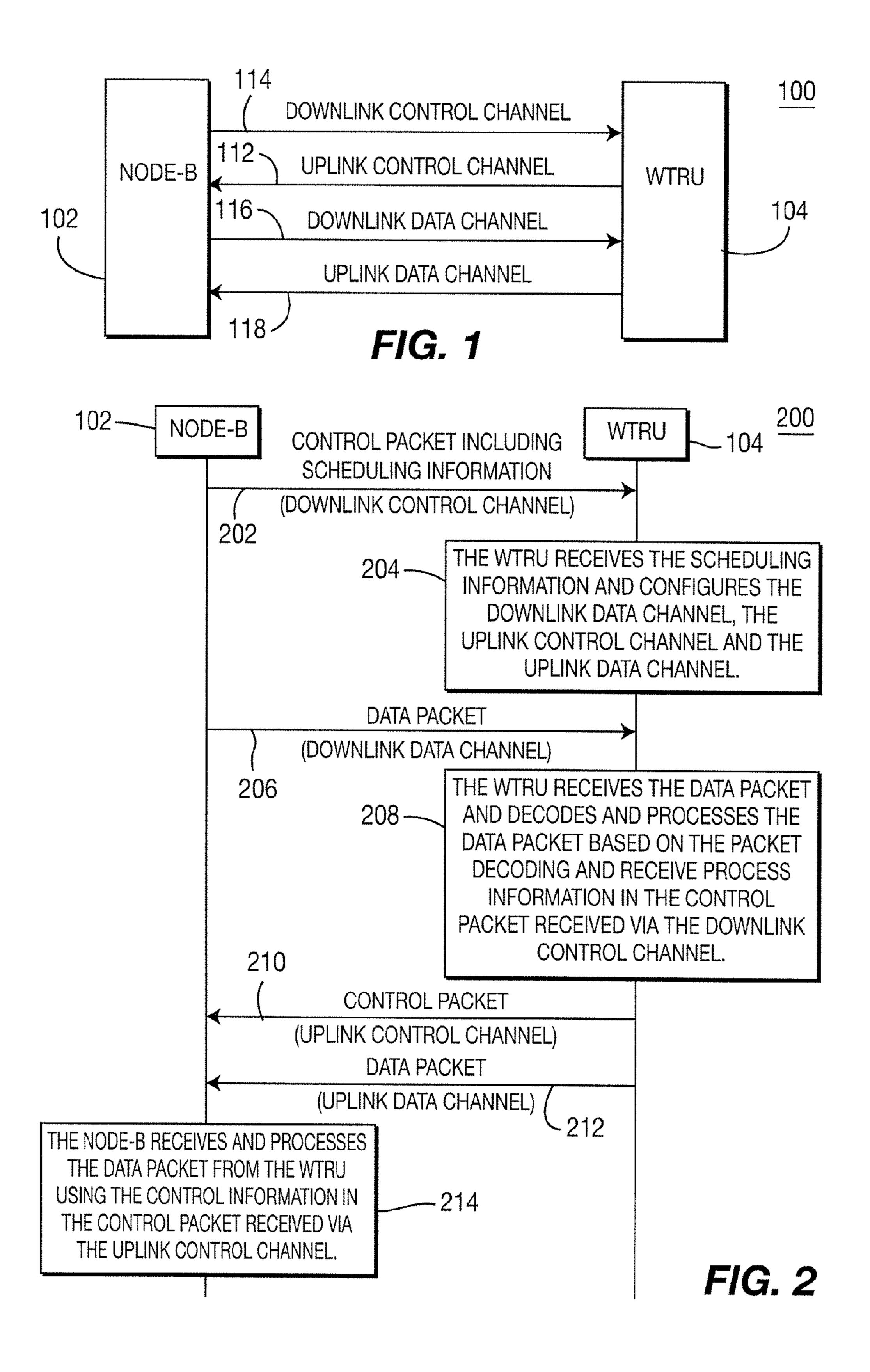
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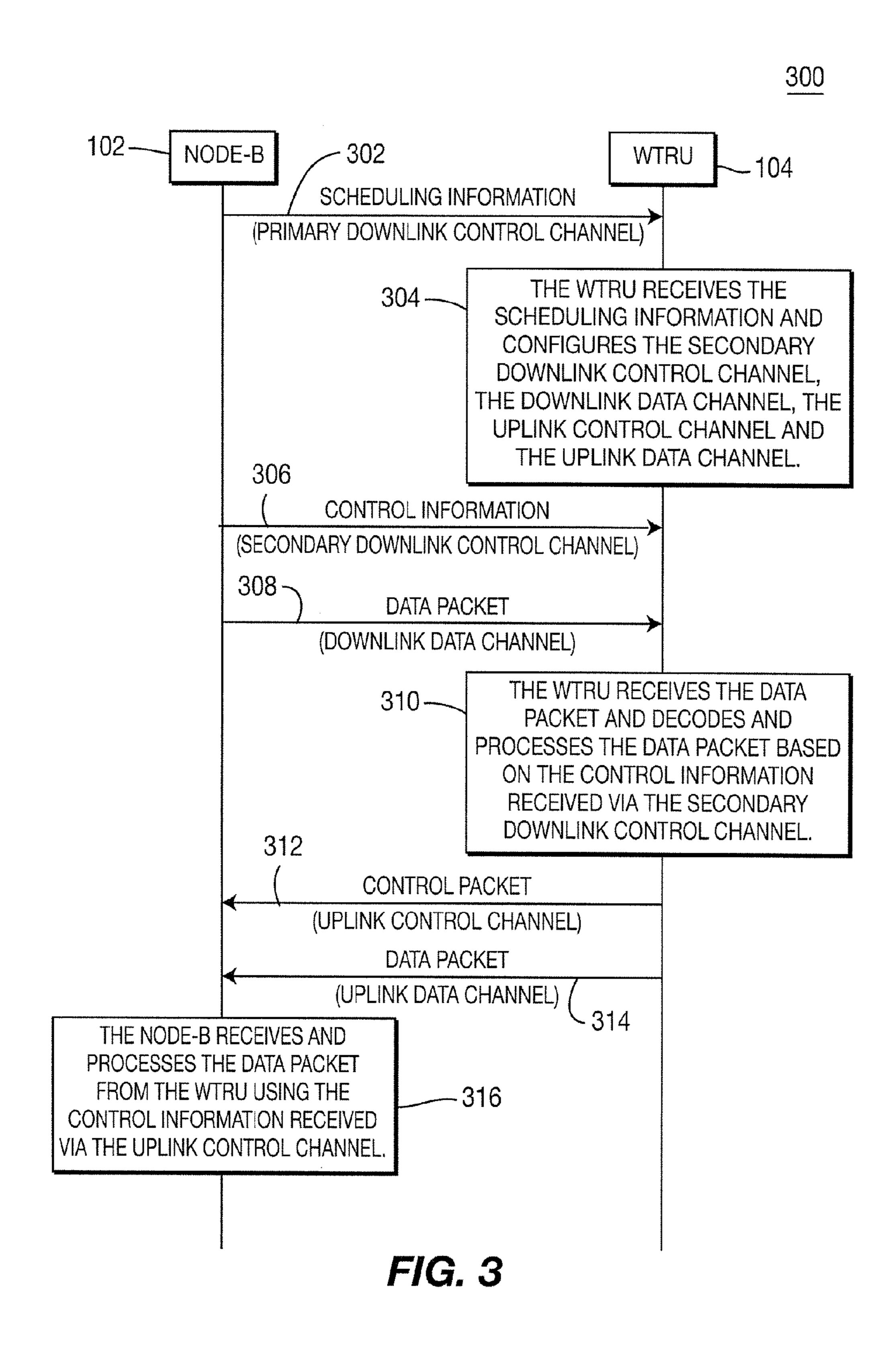
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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING, RECEIVING AND/OR PROCESSING INFORMATION AND/OR DATA

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 11/538,547 filed Oct. 4, 2006, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/725,064 filed Oct. 7, 2005; both of which are incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

FIELD OF INVENTION

The present invention is related to a wireless communication system. More particularly, the present invention is related to a method and system for providing control information for supporting high speed downlink and uplink.

BACKGROUND

The third generation partnership project (3GPP) releases 5 and 6 provide HSDPA and HSUPA for high speed transmissions in the downlink and uplink, respectively. For HSDPA 25 and HSUPA operations, a Node-B dynamically allocates radio resources to a plurality of user equipments (UEs), and several physical channels are provided to the UEs.

There are two downlink physical channels and one uplink physical channel in HSDPA. The downlink physical channels include a high speed shared control channel (HS-SCCH) and a high speed physical downlink shared channel (HS-PD-SCH). The uplink physical channel includes a high speed dedicated physical control channel (HS-PDCCH).

The HS-SCCH carriers downlink HSDPA control information. The downlink HSDPA control information includes a channelization code set, a modulation scheme, a transport block size, hybrid automatic repeat request (H-ARQ) process information, redundancy and constellation version, a new data indicator and a UE identity (ID). A UE is assigned with 40 up to four (4) HS-SCCHs in a cell via radio resource control (RRC) signaling. The UE needs to monitor all of the allocated HS-SCCH(s) before receiving control information for HSDPA.

The HS-PDSCH carriers downlink HSDPA data packets. 45 Based on the processing of the HS-PDSCH, (e.g., cyclic redundancy check (CRC) and H-ARQ processing), the UE sends a positive acknowledgement (ACK) or a negative acknowledgement (NACK) signal to the Node-B via the HS-DPCCH. The HS-DPCCH also carries a channel quality indicator (CQI).

There are three downlink physical channels and two uplink physical channels in HSUPA. The downlink physical channels include an enhanced dedicated channel (E-DCH) absolute grant channel (E-AGCH), an E-DCH relative grant channel (E-RGCH), and an E-DCH H-ARQ indicator channel (E-HICH). The uplink physical channels include an E-DCH dedicated physical data channel (E-DPDCH) and an E-DCH dedicated physical control channel (E-DPCCH)

The E-AGCH carries an uplink E-DCH absolute grant, 60 (i.e., a maximum power ratio between the E-DPDCH and a dedicated physical control channel (DPCCH)). The channelization code for the E-AGCH is signaled separately to each UE. The E-RGCH carries an uplink E-DCH relative grant. The E-HICH carries an E-DCH H-ARQ acknowledgement indicator, (i.e., ACK or NACK). The E-DPDCH carries uplink HSUPA data packets. The E-DPCCH carries transport

2

format combination index (TFCI) information, a retransmission sequence number (RSN) and a happy bit.

The following Tables 1 and 2 summarize the control information sent on the downlink for HSDPA and HSUPA, respectively, and the following Tables 3 and 4 summarize the control information sent on the uplink for HSDPA and HSUPA, respectively.

TABLE 1

LO			
	Information (number of bits) Shared con	When trol channel (SCCH)	Frequency
15	Channelization code (7) Modulation (1) Transport block size (6) H-ARQ process information (3)	Before data transmission Before data transmission Before data transmission Before data transmission	Per TTI Per TTI Per TTI Per TTI
20	Redundancy version (3) New data indicator (1) UE ID (16)	Before data transmission Before data transmission Before data transmission	Per TTI Per TTI Per TTI

TABLE 2

Information (number of bits)	When	Frequency
Absolute C	Frant Channel (E-A	GCH)
Absolute grant - in terms of power ratio (5)	After rate request	Depends on the implementation (100's of ms)
UE ID or group of UE (16)	After rate request	Same as above
H-ARQ process activation flag	After rate request	Same as above
Relative G	rant Channel (E-RO	GCH)
UP/Hold/Down (1)	Following UL transmission n non-serving cell	Per TTI
Hold/Down (1)	Following UL transmission	Per TTI (only for 'down' command)
UE ID (16)	Following UL transmission licator Channel (E-1	Per TTI (only for 'down' command)
		,
ACK/NACK (1)	Following UL transmission	Per TTI

TABLE 3

Information (number of bits)	When Dedicated Control Channel (HS	Frequency S-DPCCH)
ACK/NACK (1) CQI (5)	Following DL transmission Following DL transmission	Per TTI Periodic (multi TTI or 160 msec as soon as HSDPA channel is est.)

TABLE 4

60	Information		
	(number of bits)	When	Frequency
E-DCH Dedicated Control Channel (E-DPCCH)			(E-DPCCH)
65	RSN (2)	With UL data transmission	Per TTI
03	Happy bit (1) E-TFCI (7)	With UL data transmission With UL data transmission	Per TTI Per TTI

Information (number of bits)	When	Frequency
F	Rate Request Information ((on E-DPDCH)
Logical channel ID (4) UE buffer occupancy (13) UE Power headroom (7)		Periodic and event triggered defined by RRC

SUMMARY

The present invention is related to a method and system for providing control information for supporting high speed data transmission. A Node-B assigns at least one downlink control channel and at least one uplink control channel to a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU). The downlink control channel and the uplink control channel are provided to carry control information for both the downlink and the uplink data trans- 25 mission. Conventional control channels for HSDPA and HSUPA are combined into a reduced set of control channels for uplink and downlink. The Node-B and the WTRU communicate control information via the reduced set of downlink control and the uplink control channels. The WTRU receives 30 downlink data and transmits uplink data, and the Node-B receives uplink data and transmits downlink data based on the control information transmitted via the reduced set of downlink control and the uplink control channels.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a system configured in accordance with the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a flow diagram of an exemplary process for 40 transmission of control and data packets in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a flow diagram of an exemplary process for transmission of control and data packets in accordance with another embodiment the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

When referred to hereafter, the terminology "WTRU" 50 includes but is not limited to a user equipment (UE), a mobile station (STA), a fixed or mobile subscriber unit, a pager, or any other type of device capable of operating in a wireless environment. When referred to hereafter, the terminology "Node-B" includes but is not limited to a base station, 55 e-Node-B, a site controller, an access point (AP) or any other type of interfacing device in a wireless environment.

The features of the present invention may be incorporated into an integrated circuit (IC) or be configured in a circuit comprising a multitude of interconnecting components.

In the current 3GPP specification, there are four downlink control channels and two uplink control channels are defined to support HSDPA and HSUPA operation. In accordance with the present invention, the conventional two uplink control channels are combined to at least one uplink control channel 65 and the conventional four downlink control channels are combined to at least one downlink control channel. In addition to

4

these control channels used for high speed uplink and down-link, information signaled on associated dedicated control channels, (e.g., transmit power control (TPC) on uplink and downlink DPCCHs), may also be combined.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a wireless communication system 100 configured in accordance with the present invention. The system 100 includes a Node-B 102 and a WTRU 104. Between the Node-B 102 and the WTRU 104, an uplink control channel 112, a downlink control channel 114, a down-10 link data channel 116 and an uplink data channel 118 are established. The channels 112-118 are allocated to the WTRU 104 preferably by the Node-B 102 or a radio network controller (RNC). The channels 112-118 may be defined by a combination of at least one of frequency, time, power, antenna, and code. A certain antenna and power may be used to transmit to one user and a different set of antenna and power may be used to transmit to another user. Hence, multiple channels may be available at the same time on the same frequency and code using different antenna and power. The 20 Node-B 102 may configure the WTRU 104 to receive and transmit on more than one downlink and uplink control channel and more than one downlink and uplink data channel.

The WTRU 104 listens to the downlink control channel 114 and gets control information about the downlink data channel, the uplink control channel and the uplink data channel. Once the WTRU 104 is configured with the uplink control channel 112 and the downlink data channel 116, the WTRU 104 receives data or transmits control and data information on the assigned downlink data channel 116, the uplink control channel 112 and the uplink data channel 118.

The control information may include scheduling information, packet decoding information, receive process information and feedback information. The packet decoding information, receive process information and feedback information need to be transmitted every transmission time interval (TTI). The scheduling information may be transmitted every TTI or on a need basis.

The packet decoding information may include modulation scheme, a coding rate and a packet size. The information regarding the modulation scheme, the coding rate and the packet size may be combined into one parameter for over the air transmission.

The receive process information may include an H-ARQ process ID, a new data indicator, a redundancy version, a packet sequence number and status information of a transmitter. The H-ARQ process ID is needed only for asynchronous H-ARQ and is not needed for synchronous H-ARQ. The redundancy version may be used to indicate new data as well. The packet sequence number denotes the sequence number of a packet within an H-ARQ process at the transmitter. This is a useful parameter for soft or hard combining of retransmission and a previously failed transmission. The status information may be used for H-ARQ assisted ARQ operation where along with H-ARQ feedback information indicating the status of on-going transmission may be reported.

The feedback information may include H-ARQ ACK/NACK, a CQI of the control channel, a CQI of the data channel, a packet sequence number, an H-ARQ process ID, status information of a receiver, transmit diversity information (phase and amplitude information to support transmit diversity), and power control information.

The scheduling information is either a scheduling request or a scheduling response. The scheduling response is sent from the Node-B 102 to the WTRU 104, and the scheduling request is sent from the WTRU 104 to the Node-B 102. The scheduling response may include at least one of resource allocation for a secondary downlink control channel (if appli-

cable), resource allocation for the downlink data channel 116, resource allocation for the uplink control channel 112, resource allocation for the uplink data channel 118 and uplink timing adjustment if necessary. The secondary downlink control channel is a control channel dedicated to a WTRU 104 for point-to-point services and possibly to several WTRUs in the case of point-to-multipoint services. The WTRU 104 listens to and decodes the channel following a resource allocation indicating the secondary control channel. The WTRU 104 needs frame alignment timing to transmit correctly in an uplink slot. Since a clock of the WTRU 104 drifts with time and the propagation delay changes due to mobility, the WTRU 104 needs to adjust its clock based on the feedback from the Node-B 102. This information is signaled whenever the Node-B 102 detects reception outside of a specified range.

In conventional 3GPP standards, radio resources are assigned per TTI for HSDPA and indefinitely for HSUPA. A duration field may be added to provide flexibility in assigning radio resources so that each resource allocation includes physical resource allocation information and duration indicating a period during which the physical resource allocation is effective. Duration may be a continuous allocation of certain TTIs to the WTRU 104, or a periodic allocation of resources for a certain time. For example, the duration field may be denoted by "n" TTI where "n" may have value from 1 25 to infinity. The value of '1' indicates the resource is assigned for one TTI and the value of "infinity" denotes infinite allocation of the resource. Where resources are assigned for an infinite period, the WTRU 104 is informed explicitly about release of the resources.

The scheduling response may be sent separately on the downlink control channel 114. Alternatively, the scheduling response may be multiplexed in a signal packet with at least one of the packet decoding information, the receive process information and the feedback information. Alternatively, the 35 scheduling response may be piggybacked with a data packet and sent on the downlink data channel 116.

Alternatively, two separate downlink control channels may be allocated to the WTRU 104, (i.e., a primary downlink control channel and a secondary downlink control channel), 40 and the scheduling response may be transmitted via the primary downlink control channel and the other control information, (i.e., packet decoding information, receive process information, timing adjustment and feedback information), may be transmitted via the secondary downlink control chan- 45 nel. It is preferable to share the primary downlink control channel with multiple WTRUs and dedicate the secondary downlink control channel to a single WTRU for point-topoint services or a set of WTRUs for point-to-multipoint services. The primary downlink control channel is a common 50 control channel that all WTRUs are listening on. The secondary control channel is a dedicated control channel that only certain WTRU(s) addressed on the particular primary control channel listens for.

The scheduling request may contain all or some of the following information such as buffer occupancy for each service type or data flow, related quality of service (QoS) requirements, time in the queue for the first packet for each service, and the WTRU power headroom, (i.e., available power for the requested uplink resource channel). The scheduling request may be transmitted separately on the uplink control channel 112, may be piggybacked with other control information and transmitted on the uplink control channel 112, may be piggybacked with uplink data and transmitted on the uplink data channel 118, may be sent via a separate packet on the uplink data channel 118, or may be sent via a random access channel (RACH) (not shown in FIG. 1). Preferably,

6

during active transmission, (i.e., the uplink control channel 112 is present), the scheduling request is sent on the uplink control channel 112 piggybacked with the other control information. In the absence of the uplink control channel 112, the scheduling request is preferably sent on the RACH.

For transmitting control information on the uplink control channel 112 and the downlink control channel 114, the control information may be separated in two parts since not all the control information needs to be sent at any given TTI. The control information may contain special bits to indicate whether the control channel contains only downlink control information or only uplink control information and whether the control channel contains feedback information or other control information. The special bits may also indicate whether the control channel includes broadcast information, multimedia broadcast/multicast services (MBMS), persistent scheduling information for periodic services, paging information or control information for group of WTRUs.

Uplink control information from the Node-B 102 to the WTRU 104 may contain transmission feedback information. Downlink control information from the WTRU 104 to the Node-B 102 only contains feedback information. Uplink control information from the WTRU 104 to the Node-B 102 contains packet decoding information, receive process information and a scheduling request (if needed). Downlink control information from the Node-B 102 to the WTRU 104 contains decoding information, receive process information and a schedule response (if needed).

In a preferred embodiment, a single packet may be used including all control information. Alternatively, multiple packets may be used. A single packet contains all the downlink control information and the uplink control information needed for both downlink and uplink. The control packet contains decoding information, receive process information, feedback information and scheduling information, (i.e., a scheduling request or a scheduling response). Some indication may be included in the control packet to indicate active information elements.

The downlink control channel 114 and the uplink control channel 112 may be a shared channel for all WTRUs or a dedicated channel assigned to a single WTRU or a group of WTRUs. Preferably, the uplink control channel 112 is not a shared channel due to possible collisions between multiple WTRUs.

The uplink control channel 112 may be assigned to a WTRU 104 only during active uplink and/or downlink data transfer, (i.e., on an as needed basis). Alternatively, the uplink control channel 112 may be assigned to a WTRU 104 even in a dormant state. Four alternatives with respect to downlink and uplink control channel configuration are summarized in Table 5. Method 3 and 4 are the preferred alternatives.

TABLE 5

	Downlink control channel	Uplink control channel
Method 1 Method 2 Method 3 Method 4	Dedicated Dedicated Shared Shared	Dedicated during dormant and active state Dedicated only during active state Dedicated during dormant and active state Dedicated only during active state

An exemplary system operation with a single downlink control channel and per TTI basis resource allocation is explained hereinafter with reference to FIG. 2. FIG. 2 is a flow diagram of an exemplary process 200 for transmission of control and data packets in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. The WTRUs are listening to the

downlink control channel 114 (step 202). Once the WTRUs 104 get the control information addressed to it on the downlink control channel 114 from a Node-B 102, the WTRUs 114 get scheduling information, (e.g., resource allocation for a downlink data channel, an uplink control channel and an 5 uplink data channel), and packet decoding and receive process information, (e.g., a coding rate, a modulation scheme, a packet size, an H-ARQ process ID, a redundancy version, or the like). The control packet may also include feedback information, (i.e., H-ARQ ACK/NACK of the previous uplink data packet and a CQI). The WTRU 104 receives the scheduling information and configured the downlink data channel 116, the uplink control channel 112 and the uplink data channel 118 (step 204).

The None-B 102 transmits a downlink data packet to the WTRU 104 via the downlink data channel 116 (step 206). The WTRU 104 receives the downlink data packet on the downlink data channel 116 and decodes and processes the data packet based on the packet decoding and receive process information received in the control packet via the downlink 20 control channel 114 (step 208).

The WTRU 104 responds with a control packet that contains feedback information to the downlink data packet, (i.e., ACK/NACK) (step 210). If needed, the WTRU 104 may also send a scheduling request for uplink transmission and packet 25 decoding and receive process information, (i.e., a coding rate, a modulation scheme, a packet size, an H-ARQ process ID, a redundancy version, or the like), and may subsequently send an uplink data packet (steps 210, 212). The Node-B 102 receives and processes the uplink data packet from the WTRU 30 104 using the control information in the control packet received via the uplink control channel (step 214).

An exemplary system operation with primary and secondary downlink control channels and duration-based resource allocation is explained herein after with reference to FIG. 3. 35 FIG. 3 is a flow diagram of an exemplary process 300 for transmission of control and data packets in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention. Two downlink control channels, (i.e., a primary downlink control channel and a secondary downlink control channel). The primary 40 control channel, (may also be called a common control channel), is known to and monitored by each WTRU 104. Each WTRU 104 receives control information on the primary channel addressed to it from the Node-B 102, The Node-B 102 sends scheduling information on the primary downlink con- 45 trol channel (step 302). The scheduling information includes resource assignment for a secondary downlink control channel, a downlink data channel, an uplink control channel and an uplink data channel. The secondary downlink control channel is the dedicated control channel addressed to the 50 WTRU **104**. Upon receiving the scheduling information, the WTRU 104 configures the secondary downlink control channel, the downlink data channel, the uplink control channel and the uplink data channel (step 304).

The Node-B **102** sends control information, (i.e., packet 55 related information, such as a coding rate, a modulation scheme, a packet size, an H-ARQ process ID, a redundancy version, or the like), on the secondary downlink control channel (step **306**). The Node-B **102** may send feedback information, (i.e., ACK/NACK of the previous uplink data packet and 60 a CQI), on the secondary downlink control channel. The Node-B **102** then sends a data packet to the WTRU **104** via the downlink data channel (step **308**). The WTRU **104** decodes and processes the data packet based on the control information received on the secondary downlink control channel 65 (step **310**). The WTRU **104** sends a control packet that contains feedback information to the data packet, (i.e., ACK/

8

NACK), via the uplink control channel (step 312). If needed, the WTRU 104 may send a scheduling request for uplink transmissions and packet related information along with the feedback via the uplink control channel. The WTRU 104 then may send an uplink data packet via the uplink data channel (step 314). The Node-B 102 receives, decodes and processes the uplink data packet based on the control information received via the uplink control channel (step 316). If the primary control channel allocates a secondary control and data transmission channel for a specified duration the WTRU 104 either continuously, (i.e., each TTI), or periodically, (i.e., in accordance with a reception pattern over multiple TTIs), receive the allocated channels for the duration of the allocation.

An H-ARQ control packet for an active H-ARQ process may be sent on an as needed basis. If the H-ARQ information, (such as an H-ARQ process ID, a new data indicator and a redundancy version), is included in a subsequent packet, (e.g., in a header of a subsequent data packet), there is no need to send the scheduling information every TTI. A downlink control packet for scheduling information will be sent only if there is a change in resource allocation, a modulation scheme or a packet size.

The control information may be piggybacked on a data packet. Control information, (such as, ACK/NACK, a CQI, a scheduling response, or a scheduling request), may be piggybacked with data in a data packet. This is especially useful when both uplink and downlink H-ARQ processes are active. A downlink data packet may piggyback ACK/NACK, a CQI and a scheduling response. An uplink data packet may piggyback ACK/NACK, a CQI and a scheduling request.

Alternatively, two uplink control channels may be provided, (i.e., a primary uplink control channel and a secondary uplink control channel). The primary uplink control channel is used to send a resource request and the secondary control channel is used to send packet decoding and receive process information and feedback information.

Downlink resource allocation may implicitly imply uplink resource allocation. For example, when the WTRU 104 is assigned with resources in the downlink for HSDPA, it may implicitly mean that specific resources are assigned in uplink for data and/or control transmission, (such as, ACK/NACK, small data packets, and a scheduling request for uplink transmission). The uplink data channel and the uplink control channel may have a fixed offset in time or frequency from the downlink data channel or the downlink control channel, and the WTRU 104 may configure the uplink channels based on the fixed offset.

The Node-B **102** may make the decision regarding a transmit power, a packet size, a modulation scheme, a coding rate, and an H-ARQ process for uplink transmissions. In this case, the control information for uplink data packet is sent from the Node-B **102** to the WTRU **104** via the downlink control channel.

The WTRU 104 is required to monitor downlink control channel. If it is a time division multiplexing (TDM) system, the WTRU 104 may go to sleep during time slots that are not assigned to the WTRU 104 and may wake up to listen to the control channel on the assigned time slot(s).

Although the features and elements of the present invention are described in the preferred embodiments in particular combinations, each feature or element can be used alone without the other features and elements of the preferred embodiments or in various combinations with or without other features and elements of the present invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A method implemented by a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU), the method comprising:

transmitting a scheduling request on a primary uplink control channel;

receiving a downlink data channel;

transmitting an acknowledgement (ACK) or an non-acknowledgement (NACK) for the received downlink data channel on a secondary uplink control channel at an offset, in time and frequency, from the downlink data to channel;

receiving, on a downlink control channel, a resource assignment for an uplink data channel; and

transmitting control information combined with data on the uplink data channel.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the control information comprises multiple different types of control information.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the control information comprises feedback information.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the control information 20 comprises a channel quality indicator (CQI).
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the control information comprises any of an acknowledgement and non-acknowledgement.
- 6. The method claim 1, wherein the control information 25 combined with data comprises: the control information piggybacked on the data.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the control information combined with data comprises: the control information multiplexed with the data.
- 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising: receiving, on a downlink control channel, hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) process information for the data.
- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the primary uplink control channel utilizes a first combination of time and frequency resources, and wherein secondary uplink control channel utilizes a second combination of time and frequency resources.
- 10. The method of claim 9, wherein at least the time resources of first and second combinations are different.
- 11. A wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) comprising a transmitter, receiver and processor, wherein:

10

the transmitter is adapted to transmit a scheduling request on a primary uplink control channel;

the receiver is adapted to receive a downlink data channel; the transmitter is adapted to transmit an acknowledgement (ACK) or an non-acknowledgement (NACK) for the received downlink data channel on a secondary uplink control channel at an offset, in time and frequency, from the downlink data channel;

the receiver is adapted to receive, on a downlink control channel, a resource assignment for an uplink data channel; and

the transmitter is adapted to transmit control information combined with data on the uplink data channel.

- 12. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information comprises multiple different types of control information.
- 13. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information comprises feedback information.
- 14. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information comprises a channel quality indicator (CQI).
- 15. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information comprises any of an acknowledgement and non-acknowledgement.
- 16. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information combined with data comprises: the control information piggybacked on the data.
- 17. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the control information combined with data comprises: the control information multiplexed with the data.
- 18. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the receiver is adapted to receive, on a downlink control channel, hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) process information for the data.
- 19. The WTRU of claim 11, wherein the primary uplink control channel utilizes a first combination of time and frequency resources, and wherein secondary uplink control channel utilizes a second combination of time and frequency resources.
- 20. The WTRU of claim 19, wherein at least the time resources of first and second combinations are different.

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